

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 /092 W

----- 129344

R 040530Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3083

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 3556

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, XA

SUBJECT: ROK MISSION VISITS SUDAN

REF: SEOUL 9412

1. ROKG MOFA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND TREATIES BUREAU DIRECTOR CHUNG U-YONG CALLED ON AMBASSADOR DEC 3, ACCOMPANIED BY KOREAN CONGEN KIM AND CONSUL LEE. IN RESPONSE CHUNG'S QUESTIONS, AMBASSADOR BRIEFED HIM ON RECENT IMPROVEMENT IN USG/GOS BILATERAL RELATIONS, OUR ASSESSMENT AS TO RELATIVE STABILITY NIMEIRI REGIME AND CURRENT SUDANESE FOREIGN EXCHANGE DIFFICULTIES IN PART DUE POOR COTTON CROP LAST SPRING. CHUNG TOOK CAREFUL NOTES AND SAID INFORMATION WOULD BE USEFUL IN DETERMINING HOW FAR ROKG MIGHT WISH TO GO IN SEEKING CULTIVATE RELATIONS WITH SUDAN.

2. SPECIFICALLY, CHUNG INDICATED IT WAS STILL NOT CERTAIN THAT \$15 MILLION KHARTOUM GUEST HOUSE PROJECT (KHARTOUM 3057) HAS YET BEEN DEFINITELY CONCLUDED. SEVERAL KOREAN DELEGATIONS ARE EXPECTED HERE SHORTLY TO DISCUSS DETAILS, CONFIDENTIAL

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BUT CHUNG COMMENTED RUEFULLY THAT "\$15 MILLION LOT OF

MONEY FOR KOREA". WHEN DISCUSSING CURRENT GOS PAYMENTS DIFFICULTIES, AMBASSADOR SAID OUR ASSESSMENT WAS THAT LONG-TERM SUDANESE POTENTIAL IS EXCELLENT BUT THAT WHETHER ONE COULD ACCEPT SHORT-TERM RISK IMPLICIT IN CURRENT PAYMENTS DIFFICULTIES WOULD HAVE TO BE BUSINESS DECISION.

3. CONGEN KIM STATED THAT MINSTATE SPECIAL PRESAFFS DR. BAH AL-DIN AL-IDRIS (COMMENT: WHO WORKED OUT BASIS FOR ESTABLISHMENT ROK PRESENCE HERE LAST SPRING. END COMMENT) NOW REPEAT NOW VISITING SEOUL WITH PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM NIMEIRI FOR PRESIDENT PARK. TRIP OF MINCOMMERCE AND SUPPLY AL-AWAD (KHARTOUM 3221) HAD HAD TO BE POSTPONED BUT AWAD WOULD DEFINITELY BE LEAVING DEC 6, WOULD SIGN BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT WHILE IN SEOUL AND WOULD COOPERATE IN ISSUANCE JOINT COMMUNIQUE.

4. COMMENT. ROKG VISITORS WERE OBVIOUSLY SOMEWHAT CONCERNED RE WISDOM OF CONCLUDING AGREEMENTS WITH ONE SUDANESE REGIME THAT MIGHT BE REPLACED, AS WELL AS WITH UNCERTAIN FINANCIAL PICTURE. HOWEVER, ON BALANCE CHUNG LET IMPRESSION HE WILL RECOMMEND (A) CONTINUATION ROKG BLADISHMENTS TOWARD GOS, WITH AS MUCH EFFORT BY SEOUL TO PIN DOWN KHARTOUM ON ISSUES OF CONCERN TO ROKG AS TRAFFIC WILL BEAR, AND (B) CONTINUED WORK THROUGH SAUDIS TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM IMPACT ON GOS KOREAN POLICY.  
BREWER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976KHARTO03556  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760449-0731  
**From:** KHARTOUM  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 85  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 SEOUL 9412  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ROK MISSION VISITS SUDAN  
**TAGS:** PFOR, KS, XA, SU, UNGA, (CHUNG U YONG)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006